MONTEREY NEWS

May 2013
VOLUME XLIII · Number 5

The Town

by Susan Gallant

After spending an exhausting month of March deliberating budget issues and finalizing the May 4th annual town meeting warrant, the Select Board enjoyed a well-deserved calm and uneventful April, during which only two Select Board meetings took place in time for this report.

Wilson Mclaughlin House Clarifications

Maynard Forbes stopped by the April 8th meeting to express concern about the process the Friends of Wilson Mclaughlin House (FWMH) used to hire a company to de-lead the house. According to Maynard, since the house is owned by the town, any project going out to bid should follow

(cont. on p. 2)

Town Meeting Warrant

On May 4 at 9:30 am Moderator Mark Makuc will gavel the 2013 annual town meeting to order. Childcare will be available so that parents will be able to attend.

As is always the case, the biggest item to be decided is article 3, the budget.

(cont. on p. 2)

Monterey ladies out for a ride (circa 1910): (l-r) Mrs. Edward Brooks (Emma Brooks), Clara D. Brooks and Gertrude A. Enoe (age 18). Photo courtesy Barbara Swann and Monterey Historical Society.

(Town, cont. from p. 1)
the procurement laws set out by the state. Muriel Lazzarini suggested that the deleading, scheduled to begin that very day, should be postponed until these procedural matters were cleared up. Wayne Burkhart, however, disagreed, and Select Board chair Scott Jenssen was absent from the meeting, so no decision was made. In the meantime, Melissa Noe will be contacting town counsel to determine what procedures must be followed. (See related article, p. 5.)

A related issue is the dispensation of the $50,000 gift presented by Lew Scheffey in 1996 to the FWMH. A letter to the editor in a past issue of the *Monterey News* suggested that a large part of that donation was turned over to free cash for the town. In an effort to get to the bottom of the matter, Muriel spoke with outgoing accountant Steve Pullen, who reported that the entire amount was put into a separate account and has been used for maintenance of the property.

Police Report

Police chief Gareth Backhaus joined the April 8th meeting to report on the following police-related activity:

- False alarms on Mt. Hunger, Eaton, and North Cove Roads.
- Complaint about harassing entries on Facebook; all parties have been contacted and are working to resolve the problem.
- Lockouts at Camp Half Moon and on Tyringham Road.
- Suspicious persons reported on Sylvan and Beartown Mountain. Roads.
- Cars blocking town snowplows towed on Hupi Road.
- Domestic call on Beartown Mountain Road during which an arrest was made.
- Four criminal complaints filed in court: one assault charge and three incidents involving motor vehicles. ॐ

Important Note on May 7th Town Election

Voters in the May 7th election of town officers (remember that the election is now on the Tuesday following annual town meeting) need to be aware that two lines on the ballot will be blank even though there are candidates endorsed by both Democrats and Republicans for the seats. As noted in last month's Monterey News, Alan Salamon, candidate for the open 5-year Planning Board seat, and Lisa Smyle, candidate for one of the two open Library Trustee seats, were out of town and unable to sign the election forms in the time required by state statute; therefore these lines are blank on the ballot and their names will have to be written in. Both Alan and Lisa have been serving on these boards and want to continue. They deserve support—please write in their names in the proper places on the ballot.

(Town Meeting Warrant, cont. from p. 1)
The total proposed operating budget for FY2014 is $3,286,878 up $221,206.24 (7.2 percent) from last year. The special articles, if all are approved, will add an additional $396,343 (an increase of 49.7 percent over last year's special article total of $264,791), for a proposed total of $3,683,221, an increase of $352,758.24, or 10.6 percent over last year.

The biggest item in the operating budget, as always, is the school district levy of $1,278,491, up 133,211 (11.6 percent) over last year.

Article 4 is the big-ticket special article, requesting $275,000 for the purchase of a grader for the Highway Department. Article 5 requests $49,205 for a 4WD police cruiser, and article 6 requests $45,500 for replacement air packs for the Fire Department. Article 7 requests $31,000 for the renovation of the Wilson McLaughlin House (see article, p. 5).

The warrant appears to be fairly straightforward this year, but, as we know, surprising snags can sometimes appear in the flow of a town meeting.

—Will Marsh

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New Town Accountant an Old Hand at Accounting

With May yielding such a meager town report, it seemed like the perfect opportunity to get to know Monterey's new town accountant a bit better.

Jennifer Goewey is a Berkshire native. She grew up in Ashley Falls and currently lives in Sheffield with her husband and two children, ages 8 and 10. Although Jen has been working for Monterey for about a month, she's no stranger to small-town accounting and finances. She's also the accountant for Alford, town treasurer in Richmond, and New Marlborough's assistant treasurer. Previously she worked for three years for Egremont as town hall clerk and assistant treasurer/collector.

Jen explained that she's always enjoyed working with numbers, and that interest prompted her to open her own bookkeeping business. With that experience under her belt, she easily segued into municipal government. To enhance her skills and keep her knowledge current, Jen has taken and continues to take municipal finance training at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she's earned Massachusetts Municipal Treasurer and Accountant/Auditor certificates. What's more, she's a member of the Berkshire County Treasurer/Collector Association, where she was recently elected treasurer.

Jen believes that coming from a small town and having experience working in other small towns benefits her in her responsibilities in Monterey because she knows what types of resources are available and is accustomed to working within those parameters. Even though she's an experienced accountant, she's excited not only about what she's going to learn in her new position here in Monterey, but also about what positive change she can contribute to the town.

—Susan Gallant

Folks from Gould Farm going to church in a haywagon (date uncertain). Gould Farm is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. (Photo courtesy Gold Farm.)

Simon Winchester Book Signing at Hatchery May 11

On Saturday, May 11, at 9:30 am renowned author Simon Winchester will have a book signing for his latest colorful exploration, *Skulls: An Exploration of Alan Dudley's Curious Collection*, as well as his previous best seller *Atlantic: Great Sea Battles, Heroic Discoveries, Titanic Storms, and a Vast Ocean of a Million Stories*. The event will be held in the office wildlife center at the Berkshire Fish Hatchery, Hatchery Road, Hartsville (continuation of River Road in Monterey). Coffee will be served.

A fishing derby for kids will also be held in the lower pond.

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Bidwell House Evening at May 15th Community Potluck

The April Potluck about Gould Farm's centennial and the Farm's place in our community over the past 100 years was a very moving evening. Donna Burkhart asked everyone present to speak about his or her "connection" with the Farm, and as we went around the room, there were so many different stories and remembrances. It was just lovely. Thank you to everyone; it was a very special time.

The May Community Potluck Dinner will feature the Bidwell House Museum and the early days of our community, when Monterey was a frontier town. Rob Hoogs, President of the Board of Directors, will bring early maps of the town from his research into the land history. He will talk about the first settlers and how they planned the community in the 1700's. He will also explain who owned the land in Monterey in the early days of European settlement, and bring a list of the first landowners. Each resident can find out who the first owner of their land was! Barbara Palmer, the Executive Director of the museum, will talk about summer plans and programs at the museum and how the museum can best serve the community.

The next, and last of the season, Monterey Community Potluck Dinner will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the Monterey Meetinghouse on May 15 at 6 pm. Please bring a dish to share with a serving utensil and a place setting and silverware for yourself. Everyone is welcome.

—Barbara Dahlman and Kyle Pierce

Monterey Making Its Name in the Larger World

Monterey has been prominently featured recently in some of the major media.

Boston.com, an Internet site of the *Boston Globe*, ran a feature on the "Top 10 Best Places to Live in Massachusetts" (http://www.boston.com/yourtown/2013/04/20/top-best-locations-live-mass/QWbvwxTmfBNO5cXRQsVMhO/story.html?pg=10), and Monterey was ranked number 2: "Monterey has hardly any crime and a park to brag about. They also have three historical locations and a couple restaurants." And who is number 1? one might ask. That distinction goes to Savoy, which "with its almost-nonexistant crime rate, is a quaint place to live in Western Mass. They have one historical location and a park for local recreation." Hmmm . . . (Thanks to Maynard Forbes for bringing this to our attention.)

John Martin, a second-home owner on Sylvan Road, shared an article in the April 18th *National Journal* titled "The Boston Bombings Could Help a State Get Beyond Its Liberal Stereotype: Massachusetts really did invent America, so stop making fun of it," written by his wife, Jill Lawrence. Jill writes, "I happened to be in the tiny Berkshires town of Monterey when the bombs went off. If you watched the HBO miniseries about John Adams, you saw perhaps the proudest moment in the history of Monterey: when Gen. Henry Knox rolled his train of cannons through town in the winter of 1775-76, en route from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston to rout the British." (You can read the complete story at http://www.nationaljournal.com/politics/the-boston-bombings-could-help-a-state-get-beyond-its-liberal-stereotype-20130418.)

So once again we face the eternal question: do we keep quiet about our glories so the wider world doesn't come rushing in, or do we strut our stuff?

—Will Marsh

Monterey Library Notes

Thanks to the Friends of the Monterey Library for so generously donating tabletops for the new computer stations. The library now has three desktops available for public Internet access as well as a laptop. Special thanks to Kenn Basler for putting the tables together and custom fitting them.

Also thanks to the Friends, the Coffee Club, and the Monterey Police Department for helping out with the annual Easter egg hunt. Over fifty children hunted for the eggs, and it was all over in less than ten minutes! Sergeant Johnson and Officer Gonska went above and beyond the call of duty and found out how hard it is to hide 250 eggs on the library lawn!

On Saturday, May 25, at 10:30 am in the library, Corey Rosen Schwartz, daughter of Hy and Myrna Rosen, will read from her recently published picture-book fractured fairy tale, *The Three Ninja Pigs*. Have the kids come and meet an author. Check out her web site, http://www.coreyrosenschwartz.com/.

—Mark Makuc, Library Director

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Bidwell House Museum Invites Volunteers

Join the Garden Angels! Join Ruth Green Saturdays at 10 am for gardening fun—a wonderful opportunity to be with a group of neighbors, learn more about gardening, and help make the museum's heirloom vegetable garden into the beautiful and bountiful special exhibit for visitors from near and far that it is every year.

Become a Museum Guide! If you would like to learn about Monterey colonial history and enjoy meeting people and giving tours, please join us! An introductory meeting and training will be held on Thursday, June 13, at 11 am.

Call 413-528-6888 for more information on these opportunities.

Visit the Monterey Community Center Swamp

All are invited to a walk around the swamp led by Bonner McAllester on Sunday morning, May 19, 10:00 am to noon. The horsetails are up, geese are nesting, wildflowers and blooming trees are all around. Rubber shoes or boots will be liberating but not essential, and the same goes for bug dope of your choice. Come in the new driveway by the garden and meet up by the Community Center. Please call so we know to wait for you before setting off. There is no charge, as this walk is sponsored by the Monterey Cultural Council.

—Bonner McAllester, 528-9385

Community Center News

Joe Baker

Roof repair on Monterey Community Center.

The next round of work on the renovation of the Wilson McLaughlin House has begun. We'll all see some big changes in the look of the house as the lead paint–contaminated clapboards and windows are removed in the first weeks of May. Shortly after that, we will see new framing and sheathing take their place as the walls are prepared for modern insulation and energy efficiency. In the end the style of the house will look identical to the look we've known all these years, only "like new."

In late March and April some confusion arose around the procedural requirements that Friends of Wilson McLaughlin House (FWMH) must follow, since we must act as though we are a municipal entity. Fortunately we were able to get the issues clarified by the Attorney General's office in Boston, so now we know what is expected and required as we proceed.

The current work is just the next step along the way to renovation and finally use as your Monterey Community Center. FWMH is raising money for the work as we go, making sure we have funds for each part of the project before we start on it. The de-leading work and framing are being funded by a combination of the $10,000 voted by last year's Town Meeting and the more than $30,000 we have raised from generous private donations in the past year. To carry on beyond the framing and sheathing, we are asking for $31,000 from this year's town meeting. This money would complete the structural repairs to this venerable farmhouse and equip it with new energy-efficient windows. There is much to be done, and with your participation by voting in favor of our request at town meeting (warrant item #7), we will be able to keep the work progressing.

Read more about the community center at www.ccmonterey.org. Thank you for your support!

—Joe Baker, FWMH

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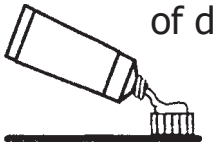

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Bidwell House 2013 Season

The 2013 season of the Bidwell House Museum, Monterey's own Colonial homestead museum, is featuring a series of events focused on life in the Berkshires and New England from the very earliest humans to the Native Americans, the English settlers, and the Shakers, to early twentieth century. The history-talk series will feature five authors and professors. Historic crafts will be demonstrated at Township No. 1 Day on July 6, as well as at workshops on bee hunting, September 21, and stone wall building, September 28.

The museum is inviting the whole community to the fourth annual Township No. 1 Day on Saturday, July 6, to celebrate local history with fun events for all ages, and to the other season highlights: the opening concert on Sunday, May 26, featuring Diane Taraz singing and playing lap dulcimer, and the festive garden party benefitting the museum, on August 3. This year's theme is "The Twenties in the Berkshires."

The Bidwell House Museum's mission is as a New England heritage landmark that uses the history of its land, house, and collections to re-imagine, re-create, restore, and research colonial and early American life in Western Massachusetts.

Tours of the homestead tell the story of the early settlement of the Berkshires and of life on the frontier. The museum is open Thursdays to Mondays (closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays) from 11 am to 4 pm, with tours on the hour, Memorial Day weekend to Columbus Day. The museum grounds—192 acres of woods, fields, historic stonewalls, trails, and picnic sites—are open all year free of charge. The program of events can be found on the museum's website: www.bidwellhousemuseum.org.

2013 Season Program Schedule

May 26, 3 pm: Concert and Opening Reception

Singer-songwriter Diane Taraz will perform her "Civil War Sampler," songs from the mid-1800s tracing the effects of the war on people of both sexes, all races, and all walks of life, in both North and South, as they struggled through a dark yet inspiring time. Diane tells the stories of the songs and accompanies herself on guitar and lap dulcimer. Refreshments.

June 15, 10 am: History Talk: Shaker Equality of the Sexes, 1788–1890

History scholar and author Glendyne Wergland on the roles of men and women in Shaker communities and how the Shakers achieved equality. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham.

June 29, 10 am–4 pm: Tyringham Garden Tour

The museum grounds are a stop on the tour that will feature walls, water, and wonderful gardens. Visit the museum's gardens or all seven stops on the tour.

July 6, 1–4:30 pm: Bidwell House Museum Township No. 1 Day

A community celebration of Tyringham and Monterey history. Live music by local musicians, children's activities, baking contest, historic craft demonstrations, author talks, more . . . For details and individual event times, please check www.bidwellhousemuseum.org or call 413-528-6888. Supported in part by a grant from the Monterey Cultural Council. Free. Please note: the museum is closed for tours this day.

July 13, 10 am: History Talk: Red and White: Settlers and Indians in Early America.

John Demos, Samuel Knight Professor of American History Emeritus at Yale University will speak at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham.

July 27, 10 am: History Talk: The Garden in the Woods: Archaeology at Kampoosa Bog in Stockbridge.

UMass Professor of Anthropology Eric Johnson will speak on finds of a 4,000-year-old settlement and what we know about earliest human life in the Berkshires. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham.

Aug. 3, 4 – 7 pm: "The Twenties in the Berkshires,"

Garden Party benefit for Bidwell House with live music, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auction, at Fiddletop Estate, Wellman Road, Monterey.

Aug. 24, 10 am: History Talk: The Rogers and Jackson Families—Love, Loyalty, Slavery, and Subversion in Colonial New England.

Prof. Allegra di Bonaventura of Yale University will talk on the story of her book *For Adam's Sake*. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham.

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Aug. 31, 10 am: History Talk: The Men Who United the States.

Author Simon Winchester will preview his next book on explorers, road builders, railroaders, and the telegraph. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham.

Sept. 21, 10 am: Housatonic Heritage Walk: Bee Hunting on Bidwell Grounds

Learn how farmers of old searched for and captured honeybees, and how you can too. Michael White will explain how to "hunt" for a bee colony and lead a guided walk on the Bidwell grounds in search of bees and other pollinators. A talk and walk, about 1 mile in the woods, some of it off-trail. Please wear appropriate shoes.

Sept. 28, 10 am: Stonewall-Building Workshop with Roger Tryon

Call 413-528-6888 to register.

Oct. 5, 10 am: Housatonic Heritage Walk: Flora and Fauna of the Bidwell Forests

Take a walking seminar, with Professor Tim Flanagan. Please dress for the weather and bring water.

Nov. 26, 4–7 pm: Colonial Thanksgiving Party

A benefit for the museum with live music, refreshments, and silent auction.

Please call or email for more information: 413-528-6888, bidwellhouse@gmail.com, www.bidwellhousemuseum.org; 100 Art School Road, Box 537, Monterey, MA 01245.

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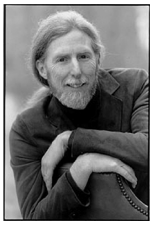

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Knox Gallery Community Summer Exhibition

Matter Reconsidered
. . . reconstructed . . . reused . . . repurposed . . . recycled . . .

re-: a prefix, occurring originally in loanwords from Latin, used with the meaning again, once more, afresh, anew

The summer community exhibition at the Knox Gallery will explore art made from repurposed, recycled or reused materials. Collage and assemblage along with many other art and craft forms have a history of reusing materials from artists' interactions and surroundings. Examples in craft include rag rugs, decorative objects fashioned from metal scraps, and patchwork quilts—crazy quilts, early American quilts, and the quilts of Gee's Bend. In more traditional art a prominent example of repurposing is found in the 1900s in the Cubist work of Picasso and Braque, which incorporates such materials as newspaper and chair caning. Joseph Cornell, Marcel Duchamp, Joseph Cornell, John Chamberlain, and Louise Nevelson are among many artists who have used found or recycled materials at some point in their careers.

Recently, several museum exhibitions have featured artists whose work incorporates reused or recycled materials: Ai WeiWei at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, DC; William Anastasi at the Brooklyn Museum. and Xu Bing, whose *Phoenix* is currently at Mass MoCA in North Adams.

Why reuse? In some cases economic reasons dictate, in others the motivation is purely aesthetic. A social, cultural, or political imperative could urge the artist to explore alternative materials. In most cases, however, a combination of these influences compels the artist.

We encourage you to consider this idea: how might repurposing relate, directly or indirectly to your own work? We hope that exploring possibilities will spark interest and encourage you to push your artistic boundaries in a new direction! The work of the artists mentioned above may be a starting point for inspiration; we will put some books on reserve at the library in case you are interested. Look around, see what materials you might be able to use and how they might inspire you.

This group exhibition is open to all Monterey residents and friends. Application forms will be available mid-May at the library and online. Applications will be due June 14 and work will need to be delivered to the Monterey Library the week of July 8. One piece per artist, in any media, will be included. Specific information regarding dates and drop off times will be in the June issue of the *Monterey News*.

— MaryPaul Yates

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Patricia Andrus, Judy Hayes, Gail Heath at Knox Gallery

In May, the Knox Gallery in the Monterey Library will feature the work of three Monterey artists in *Landscapes and More: Patricia Andrus, Judy Hayes, and Gail Heath.* The exhibit will open on Friday, May 10, with an artists' reception on Saturday, May 11, from 7–8:30 pm. The work will be on display through June 1, and as always, the Knox Gallery is open during library hours.

Though the work of each of these artists is distinct, they share a common commitment to their art and firm roots in our town. All three began pursuing painting somewhat later in life, after the pressures and time constraints of careers and raising children began to lessen. Landscape allows these artists not only to memorialize environments that are important to them, but

Landscapes by (l-r) Patricia Andrus, Judy Hayes, and Gail Heath will be exhibited in Knox Gallery in May.

to capture an ambience that moves them, and that they have individually chosen to share with their community.

Patricia Andrus strives to depict scenes that have "moved her with the beauty of the earth and God's creations . . . to convey that feeling of seeing something that stirs the viewer." She began painting in oil and then "fell in love with watercolors." Pat is an RN, worked at Fairview Hospital, and has lived in Monterey since 1954 where she and her husband Tom have raised five children.

Judy Hayes began pursuing watercolor with a class at the Great Barrington Senior Center. She moved into colored pencils and then discovered "the joy of pastels." She loves working outside, *en plein aire*, but also works in her studio, painting both landscape and still life from photographs. For the past several years, she has exhibited in the annual Sheffield Art League (now the Housatonic Valley Art League) art shows.

After enjoying craft making all her life, *Gail Heath* began painting ten years ago. She, too, was spurred to paint by a class at the Senior Center—specifically in folk-art painting. She says, "I was immediately hooked. I never intended to escalate into craft shows, but I loved painting and needed an outlet for my inventory!"

Thinking ahead, please plan to enjoy an exhibit of Edith Wilson's artwork, which spans five decades in Monterey, opening June 7. Also in June, the Knox Gallery Committee will be accepting entry forms for the summer community group show *Matter Reconsidered*, which will open on July 12. For more detail on that exhibit, please take a look at the accompanying article in this issue (p. 7).

—MaryPaul Yates

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Ellis Island

To visit Ellis Island in New York Harbor you leave by boat (but not before a complete security check) from the southern tip of Manhattan and thus reverse the trip taken by millions of immigrants who arrived there toward the end of the nineteenth and the early years of the twentieth centuries. Their first stop after all was at the immigrant processing center on the island. If they passed inspection—and overwhelmingly they did—they were then permitted to proceed across the harbor to the city.

Today, the Ellis Island facility, after long years of neglect and decay, has, as I discovered, been reconstructed and converted into a gem of a museum. Here it is possible to travel back in time and, thanks to wonderfully detailed photos, recordings, explanatory charts, research databases, and an abundance of immigrant artifacts, relive the process that preceded entry into America.

But all this information and illustration would not have the same impact were it not for the fact that today's visiting crowds could easily be substituted for the masses of humanity that flooded ashore over a century ago. I observe their excitement as they board the boat that will take them across the magnificent harbor with its spectacular view of lower Manhattan and onto Ellis Island. They've come from across the globe. Listening to their animated conversations, I overhear a medley of languages that defy easy recognition. I watch their expressions as the ship passes directly in front of the Statue of Liberty. Looking up at this world-renowned symbol of American freedom, they are transfixed, almost reverential, much as were the original immigrants. They rush to take photos of their companions and family members with Miss Liberty in the background until the boat gradually passes out of range.

Once inside the exhibition halls, they observe, they read, studiously absorbing the information presented. (Did you know that during the great period of immigration, about 2.5 million Canadians entered the United States?)

Some people have come to relive what relatives long ago must have experienced. And here is where Ellis Island succeeds best. It takes little imagination after visiting the various staging areas to sense the combination of anxiety, fear, hope, and exhilaration that each person no doubt felt as he or she stepped off the boat to begin the bewildering process that would determine their destiny. True, only about 2 percent of those who arrived would be rejected (e.g., due to illness, trachoma, illiteracy, anarchist beliefs, etc.) and sent back across the Atlantic, but how could they know their fate as they waited amidst crowds (at peak periods, up to five thousand individuals passed through Ellis each day) to be observed, inspected, tested, and questioned by strangers. And if they themselves were passed through, what assurance was there that all other family members would be? And if one or more were detained would all then decide to return home? Recognizing that such a possibility existed was itself a painful burden.

Immigration is perhaps our finest and most inspiring story. Like no other place in the world the idea of America prompted millions upon millions to make the journey despite all the obstacles, known and unknown. Arriving at Ellis Island meant they had reached the last stage of their epic trek. And based on what I saw and learned there, the United States can take credit for organizing this final stage of the process so that it was properly efficient and largely respectful of those eager to become Americans.

—Richard Skolnik

Richard blogs at www.CatchMyDrift.net.

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Monterey Walks from Julius Miner's Recollections (1940)

Part 8: Sandisfield Road, Wallace Hall Road

Prepared by Barbara Swann for the Monterey Historical Society

The Thomson Georgian Colonial house on Sandisfield Road. (Photo courtesy Monterey Historical Society)

Sandisfield Road

We go east on the West Otis Road to the Sandisfield Road. Turning right on that road the first house on the upper side of the road is near the site of the first log cabin built in Monterey. A stockade was erected around it and, at one time it was garrisoned. Look for old coins and arrow heads here.

Across the bridge, on the upper side of the road, was a level field where townsmen used to play baseball after town meeting. The meetings were held in mid-summer. After a hotly disputed meeting, they would find an outlet for their wrath in hard playing, cooling their tempers and making some amends for hard words and scowls, so parting with good will.

Nearby to the right is a wood road leading into a sugar bush with large maples. Beyond the clearing is a sharp slope downward to the sugaring house. Here may be seen old-fashioned hogsheads, gathering tubs, old wooden sap-buckets and sap pans with peculiar bottoms, so constructed as to double their heating capacity. Returning to the main road and up the hill, on the left is the village water supply. On the opposite bank, looking toward the narrow neck of water, you see the spring water, fairly bubbling or boiling out of the ground. One wonders what caused the flow and for how many, thousands of years this spring has been flowing.

Beyond, on the left are a few paper birches and a ledge of high perpendicular stones bearing lichens like elephant ears. Nature seems to have so planned that when the snow is deep and food is scarce the deer still have these lichens available for food. Possibly, to them it is as much of a treat as for us to run across an unexpected glass of Jam.

The next house on the left is a remodeled farm house. It has perhaps the best sample of old time wood graining in town. When building, the owner took great pains to select for interior trim good clean lumber, absolutely free from knots. The house was painted during his temporary absence. His disappointment and disgust were great to find upon his return that the painter, in graining the finish, finding no knots, painted them in.

The slope beyond, on the right, is covered with wild thyme. Taste it. Watch the bees throng to extract its honey. Beekeepers prize thyme as do raisers of sheep. The field contains some interesting old yews and junipers. Nearly opposite

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is a bar-way beyond which is an old road leading to Hartford, Connecticut.

Just ahead is Rose Hill. Formerly, it was covered with wild rosebushes standing fifteen inches high and bearing blossoms three inches across. Note the row of maples planted in the year 1882.

Descending the slope we see, on the right a path leading to a little bubbling brook and a waterfall. A little way up the stream is an old dam. The stream turned an overshot wheel giving power for the manufacture of cheese boxes and hay rakes. The newer breast-wheel is said to give fifteen percent more power.

Disregarding the road to the left we find on the right the remains of an old sap-house. All of the maples were long since cut down to be used, green, for making heels of ladies' shoes. Up the hill on the left is a dwelling. Across the road is what appears to be a wood road but was once a public road leading up the hillside.

On this former road are two cellars. That on the left is the site of the birthplace of Edmund S. Sears, the author of "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear." Let us visualize the scenery here in the depth of a snowy winter as we think of his famous Christmas Carol.

Let us now return to the village.

Wallace Hall Road

Let us follow the West Otis Road to the Sandisfield Road, turning right on that road. The first road on the right from the Sandisfield Road is the Wallace Hall Road. We go out this road and at the foot of the hill as we cross a little, level place, we may notice a cellar site on the upper side of the road,

Here lived a man who had a large family of boys and owned part of the nearby sawmill. One day a man brought a load of logs late in the afternoon. Not noticing anyone about, he unhitched his horses and drove away leaving his wagon. Presently the owner came and saw the load of logs with no one in attendance. He said to, his sons, "Well, now, I do not know if I would blame anyone who tipped over that load of logs." He went away but in some mysterious fashion the wagon got tipped over, logs and all.

After crossing the bridge, note what appears to be a wood road on the left. This was a public road leading to a group of houses and a school-house about 1½ miles from the village center. This was known as the Clark District. Once a thriving settlement, there now remain only cellar holes. The Clark house was at one time, occupied by Jonathan Edwards, a lineal descendant of the famous divine of that name.

At the right, note the waterfall. Below the dam was an overshot wheel. Above the dam was another dam to form a reservoir and regulate the flow. There was a co-operative sawmill here where people brought their logs and did their own sawing. First aid was almost unknown. One man had his arm accidentally cut off. The man who did it did not understand how to stop the flow of blood or was too appalled at the accident to do anything, for he simply watched while his friend bled to death.

Ascending a low hill, note that magnificent view on the right. Watch closely for a barway on the left or you will miss it. In the open field is a small stone house built after the Thibetan pattern. We are nearing a turn in the road. Straight up the hill is a small artificial lake and the road, ahead leads to New Marlboro. Look about for heron and belted kingfishers.

Let us take that road on the right. Note on our right a house built by a family who came here in 1790. Opposite the house is a barway. Beyond it are woods and there is a ravine and a waterfall. Taking the main road until we cross the second bridge, we may follow up the stream to where it emerges from the ground and may look for the cave. Returning to the highway, we continue until the stream nears the road and watch for heron, then return to the village.

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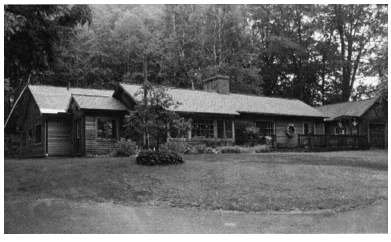

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Like the Wampanoags of long ago
From our shores we were said to be
A people of the rising Sun
Among the first to see it
Rise out of the sea

The days of warming rays have won
Winters nights are done
The light is also the father
Above the earth our Mother
All between them is sacred

Even the smallest blade of grass
As many as stars in the sky
As bright as beads of shells
Shining in our wampum belts

From the light of the sun
The shadow of the earth
On the face of the moon
Speaks the days and nights
Of our seasons

And just as the end of one arc of moon
Is the beginning of another
So the circle of life
Is not broken

When your days on earth are through
Upon land that is our Mother
From seeds you have sewn
Another being will be grown

As our ancestors have handed down
This wisdom is to be known
All to be true
Just as I have spoken
Now to you

—George Emmons

My Cats Hear What I'm Thinking

We stood in the kitchen just we three
The cats, Dorrit and Dolci, and me.

A glance at the calendar and it decrees
That it's time for their shots against ticks and fleas.

I glide stealthily across the floor
To get their meds behind the door.

I turn, and they've fled
On top of the refrigerator, under the bed.

Around each corner I silently sneak,
But they're way ahead of me as off they streak.

I close off the room
And get a broom.

I grab each by her ruff
And insert the syringe just enough.

They slink away,
No play today.

But to regain their trust
Is really a must.

A mental message with lots of love is what's needed—
Sprinkled liberally and with catnip seeded.

—Gige O'Connell

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standing on her steps
inside the soft cool mist
his hand 'round her back
her hand on his shoulder
his blond curls spilling on her
her ebony blush brushing him
their eyes inside each other's
inside the soft cool mist
mimicking their kiss
memory or wish?
inside the soft cool mist

—R. Zukowski
(10/12–3/13)

Pomegranate

like a blushing fertile moon
so robust round and red when ripe
split open / seeds like tears
ruby tears of joy
of sorrow
taken to the mouth of the mother
to the feet of the father
whose boy has just been born
whose boy has just gone on
with the river rushing
in the passion moon

—R. Zukowski
for BB & RN, 4/13

Shades

I have been travelling on a long path for a time
Its end recedes into the distance, invisible to my eye
Walking towards that end, I found a fork in the road:
One half of the path led into the sun's bright light,
and the other, the deepest of shadow

The clear half presented itself as an extension of my ongoing journey;
It was definitive progress, equal ground, even territory
Yet the darker of the ways could not contrast more
It accepted the gamble, threw the dice,
annihilated scruple and let inhibition soar

I thought for a time about my answer
Light promised dreaming, and dark awakening the realer
Both had their advantages, each seeming fair
So I cut a path between and left them there

—Joseph Makuc

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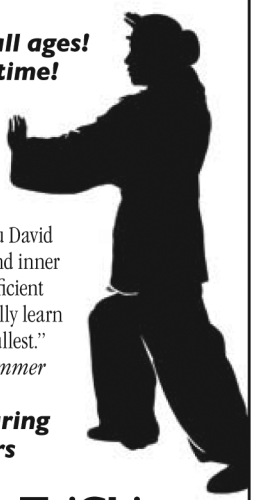

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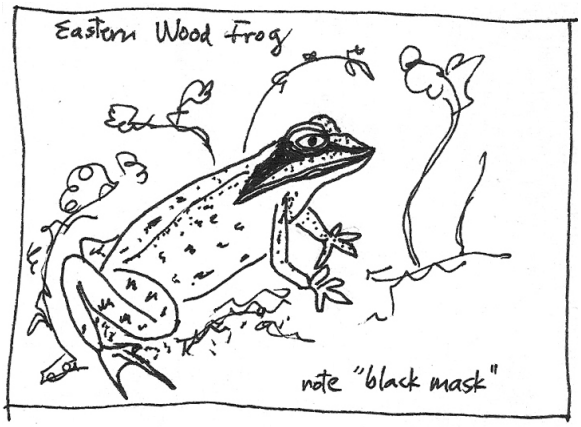
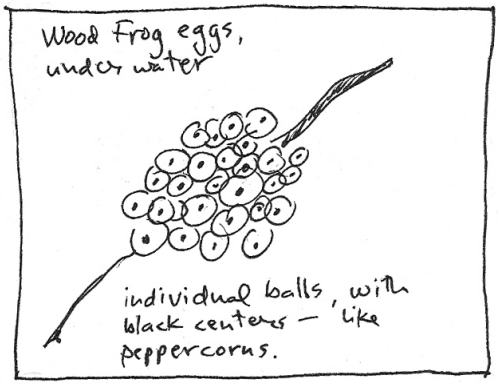
Temporary, Reliable: Vernal Pools

Spring is a speedy time, with changes every day. Beech buds getting longer and longer, grass zooming up, trilliums along the path today where there were none yesterday. There is a drumbeat of green, accelerating. We know from years past that the long view through the woods is about to vanish. The leafy limits of the northeast woods will set in and we'll call it "shade." We won't see the lay of the land, the rock ridges, or even the returning warblers. Summer will come and we won't see the vernal pools any more, either. They'll be gone, dried up leaving shallow basins of damp and drying leaves, memories of wood frogs and salamanders.

"Vernal pool" is like the buzzwords "sustainability" or "renewable resource." At first glance you think you know what they mean, having used them all your life one way or another. Then it turns out they have specific current interpretations, some with legal entanglements, politics, and morals. Words can carry such baggage for a time, only to have it drop away, lost to common parlance and to manipulative use.

I first heard of vernal pools when a pal here in Monterey was filling out forms to document one on her place. She was in a glow. She would register her pool, protect it, make it part of a permanent list. Funny, when impermanence is the very thing that defines a vernal pool. The word vernal says springtime, but officially these are temporary pools or ponds which could be present only in the spring, or maybe only in the fall, or maybe a little of both. They are fed by rainfall, snowmelt, or just a seasonally high water table. For the most part, if you come back in midsummer, the pool will be gone. Next spring it will be back, or this could be a hot dry year and the pool won't fill at all until the next more typical wet spring. The nature of the vernal pool is so individualized, so different from one to another, that some people just call these "ephemeral" pools, or "temporary woodland" pools. In some places they appear in the open, not in the woods at all. We don't call these "woodland pools," I hope.





Wherever they are, they are home to plants and animals. There is a list of creatures found in vernal pools, and many of these live in other places, too. Some are especially adapted to come to the pool early in the year and lay eggs in the water. With warm spring days, the eggs develop fast and hatch into immature or larval forms that have to stay wet. Vernal pools are full of nutrients, and the race is on for the youngsters to grow and develop into land-dwelling adults before the pool dries up.

A famous vernal-pool animal is the spotted salamander, one of a group known as "mole salamanders." These are big and they are common around here, but we almost never see them because they are such "moles." As adults they stay under damp leaves or rotty logs. They are land-dwellers, but their skin must not dry out or they won't get enough oxygen. It comes right through their damp skins, almost like what happens in our alveoli, or damp lung sacs.

Spotted salamanders go to the vernal pools in spring to lay their eggs. The males go around putting out small conical structures on the bottom. These are like clear jelly, with white tops, and on the tops are

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the sperm. The females arrive and there is courtship and swimming around together, which then leads to the females locating the sperm cones and crawling over them one at a time, to take the sperm into the cloaca, or vent opening. This is how fertilization occurs. You might call it sex. Now the female lays masses of eggs in the water, many clear spheres with dark centers. These quickly start to form embryos. If the weather turns cold, ice forming on the pond, development will be slowed down. Timing matters and evolution has set the course for the eggs to hatch into little larvae with just enough time to reach adulthood before the pond dries up.

Salamanders will also lay their eggs in ponds or lakes that do not dry up. These are dangerous nurseries because fish live there too. Vernal pools, for all their changes, do not have fish. Fish would gobble up the little aquatic creatures, eggs, larvae. A fish-free start in life is a big boost for the vernal pool frogs, salamanders, and many little worms, clams, and other invertebrates. The price paid for a safe childhood like this is that it must be a quick one. Some of the little animals have developed ways to wait out the dry period. These can be metabolic slow-downs similar to hibernation or the building of little capsules or cocoons to keep safe from drying out, until the water comes again.

Vernal pools, though ephemeral, are reliable. They vanish, and they return. This is the promise of the seasons, the planet on its tilt, the rising of the sun. We get it every day, every passing hour, but of all the seasons, spring is birth and beginnings all over again. Spring is sprouts and babies of all kinds, too many for us not to notice and so varied as to be miraculous.

—Bonner J. McAllester

Baby Steps: CHP Tea Time for New Moms

Community Health Programs (CHP) is sponsoring a free support group for mothers on Tuesdays at 11:00 am, beginning in April through the month of June, at the CHP Family Services building, 442 Stockbridge Road, Great Barrington.

CHP's caring staff facilitate a supportive environment in which new mothers share the challenges they face—including new emotions, changing relationships with their partners, and stretched finances. "By connecting with new friends and listening to other's stories, participants are reassured that they don't have to go it alone," states the group's facilitator Marybeth Merritt.

For more information or a complete schedule of family support programs and playgroups, call CHP Family Services at 413-528-0457.

Softball Season Opens

The softball season is upon us again and the Monterey Sunday Softball Association welcomes agile, athletic players male or female, 14 and up for games every Sunday and holiday morning from April through November at 10:30 at Greene Park behind Town Hall on the north side of Route 23. Rubber baseball cleats are highly recommended. Bats and balls are provided; bring your glove.

Personal Notes

As you drive on Route 7 between Great Barrington and Sheffield you may notice some new billboards with an anti-texting while driving message. These billboards were designed by Monterey's **Claudia Martin**, a student at Mt. Everett Regional High School. Claudia won a contest sponsored by Mt. Everett's Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) organization. She is the daughter of Del and Christine Martin. Congratulations Claudia!

Evan Sylbert earned high honors for the second trimester at Berkshire Country Day School. Also, he earned the Gold Summa Cum Laude award on the 2013 National Latin Exam. Evan, son of Lisa Smyle and Jon Sylbert, is in seventh grade.

Readers are encouraged to send news about Monterey folks to the editor for inclusion in the Monterey News.

Artists Sought for Otis Festival

The Otis Cultural Council is seeking artists for its Sixth Otis Arts Festival, Saturday, July 27, 9 am–3 pm, indoors, Farmington River Elementary School, Otis (free admission). For information, email culturalco.otis@yahoo.com; application are available at www.townofotisma.com/culturalcouncil.

❊

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First Light

As a boy growing up on a dairy Farm in coastal Rhode Island, first light of each new day promised to bring another learning experience of environmental awareness. Looking out across the fields, you could see pasture fence lines running down to the banks of the tidal Potowomut River, The Indian name meant "place of many campfires." One morning there was a knock on the front door by a man responding to our ad for hired hands in the Rhode Island *Pendulum* paper. He said he wanted work where he could walk upon Narragansett hunting and fishing grounds and feel close to his ancestors.

When I was thirteen in 1942, World War II still seemed far over the horizon until one day at the dinner table my father announced he could not sit by any longer and watch England become occupied by Germany. Even after serving as a pilot in World war I, he was going rejoin the Eighth Force, leaving my mother to manage the Potowomut Dairy and raise four children.

He was sent to England where the Allies began losing planes every day over Germany. My mother received a telegram saying my father was missing in action but further notice would follow . She waited for final word before telling anyone. A week later a second telegram came for my oldest sister that her pilot husband was also missing. Another then came for my Mother that my father was accounted for and we would be soon hearing from him back in England.

Our new hired hand, Elwood Young, said he was going to adopt me Indian style as was their custom, in case my father never came home, or until he did. His own father was never around while he was growing up, so his grandfather, a full-blooded council elder at the Indian church in Charlestown, Rhode Island, became his mentor, My adoption ceremony took place a mile downriver on a high bluff of Pojack Point along a shoreline where the Mount Hope headlands greet Naragansett Bay. It was where Elwood's ancestors harvested clams and oyster as well as spring runs of anadromous shad and herring.

We built a fire in the sandy soil to cook a fish we had caught under the coals. He cut both our arms and tied them together with twine he had brought, leaving them joined for more than a half hour, Then he declared I was a blood brother, so we could eat the fish, a sacred gift from waters of Mother Earth, by the fire, an endowment of the Sun.

We talked about his grandfather, the full blooded council elder, who was almost seven feet tall with a shock of white hair. When Dudley Young stood to speak to the congregation, he often talked about a creed of Native American spirituality handed down for generations by word of mouth. Taking poetic license, I have put to verse what I learned (see the poetry page of this issue).

In 1943, my father was recommended for promotion from full colonel to one-star general assigned to Supreme Allied Command Headquarters in London as a low-level-bombing expert to plan for the impending invasion. Overwork and added pressure caused a massive heart attack. He came home partially disabled, knowing he had almost given his life to save England and turn the tide of invasion back across the English Channel.

Seventy years later I profess no Indian ancestry, but sometimes I sense a native river of time running through my bloodstream, often at first light of a solar heartbeat.

—George B. Emmons

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"Garden Gustation"
What's Cooking from Monterey Gardens & Farms

Here is the Season . . . Turn, Turn, Turn

It's here, springtime in all her glory. And so the outdoor gardening list begins; albeit mental or physical, the outdoor chores are seemingly endless. Raking away the leaves to find the perennials just ready and waiting, edging the beds from the overgrowth of last season, adding compost, moving compost, trimming, pruning, preparing, turning and turning. It is the season for turning.

Last year we bought our first broadfork from Johnnyseeds.com. This tool is of European origins but was redeveloped by Eliot Coleman. For those of you don't know him, he is an organic gardening guru, researcher, and author from Maine with seemingly endless garden wisdom. He is one of the main folks responsible for teaching us that we, here in the Northeast, can harvest our produce year round with a simple unheated greenhouse, hoophouse, or low tunnel. He has authored several gardening books. Coleman doesn't rototill his beds but instead uses a broadfork to gently lift and aerate the soil in garden beds without disturbing the natural layering of the soil and changing it's structure. The broadfork we purchased (#920) is also helpful at the end of the season for gently loosening the soil to harvest your root crops. It will also loosen the soil to lessen a weeds' grip, making it easier to pull. The broadfork is fairly easy to use and nicely prepares the soil for the new crop even after amendments, much easier than the turning we used to do.

Stephen Moore

It's also time to turn our attention to the first signs of our food production . . . the garlic peeking through the mulch and the perennial rhubarb. One of my favorite pies is strawberry-rhubarb, but I recently tried this easy recipe with some of our rhubarb, not fresh from the garden but from the freezer. Before the new crop presents itself, we must turn over the remainder of last year's and use up what we have. It's also time for chickens to turn on their egg-laying mode which works perfectly with this recipe too. Hope you are enjoying the turning of the season.

Rhubarb Popover Pie

(From the *Farm Journal's Complete Pie*, ©1965)

2 eggs
¾ cup Highlawn Farm Milk
¾ cup flour
½ tsp. salt
¼ cup butter
1½ cups fresh (or frozen) cut-up (¾" slices) rhubarb

Beat eggs and milk; add flour and salt and beat until smooth.
Put butter in a 9" pie pan and heat in oven until it bubbles.
Immediately pour in batter.
Drop rhubarb in center of batter, within about 2" of pan edges.

Bake in hot oven (425º) 25 minutes or until batter is puffed and brown. Immediately cut in 6 wedges for serving, topping each with a big spoonful of warm Brown Sugar Syrup and a small scoop of ice cream (if desired). Serve at once.

Brown Sugar Syrup
1/3 cup butter
1 cup brown sugar

Melt butter. Stir in brown sugar making a thick syrup. Serve at once.

—Wendy G. Jensen
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April Wildlife Report

The wildlife in Monterey has been up and visible all month, from the bobcat on Mickey Jervas's porch on the first of the month, to my own sighting, at last, of a couple of blue jays in the east end swamp of Lake Garfield on April 23. This month sixteen people have called or written with more than 30 sightings. Thanks so much to Rochelle Brown, Pat Edelstein, Stephanie Grotz, Mickey Jervas, Kyle Pierce, Steve Snyder, Margery and Cos Spagnoletti, Cora Baker, Jody Soules, Sue Protheroe, Carol Ingher, Will and Glynis Marsh, and Kit Patten and Connie Wilson. I heard some folks saw a bear in the middle of town, too.

At her place on Swann Road, Mickey Jervas's bear visited twice in the middle of the month, once to roll a big closed canister of birdseed out into the yard, and then again to stand tall and reach up 7 feet to grab the feeder. Mickey and the cat watched from indoors. The cat hissed. Two weeks earlier a bobcat came to Mickey's porch about breakfast time, caught a squirrel, and took it off.

A week earlier, a handsome bear (see photo) called at the Grotz household at teatime, and knocked down all the feeders, about ten feet from the house. She was unperturbed when Stephanie bared her teeth, from inside the house. The Grotzes enjoyed visits from a big flock of turkeys late in March. Stephanie writes they were "dancing and fanning in the field." And: "After a couple of bobcat sightings, we have not seen anything of them. Should I keep my eye out for a very plump bobcat?"

Stephanie Grotz

Elaine Radiss

Stephanie Grotz's bear, Elaine Radiss's bobcat.

April 2, Cos and Margery Spagnoletti saw 40 turkeys cross Sandisfield Road in single file, also a barred owl flying low over Cronk Road. It settled in a tree and looked at them. This was the same day Jody Soules reassured us about the presence of blue jays, at her feeder, also the day Cora Baker saw a red fox in the meadow on East Hupi Rd.

Eagle sightings have come soaring in: Rochelle Brown saw one in a tree 10 feet from her window, on Point Road on April 7. Kyle Pierce saw an eagle on the 14th and 15th about 7:30 am. And Steve Snyder saw one, too, near the gravel pits, flying low, at about 30 feet, right around sunset.

Sue Protheroe is back in town, noting wildlife around Lake Buel. She reports there are bald eagles nesting across the lake and they swoop low over her house, sometimes carrying nesting material. She has seen an eagle standing in shallow water, fishing. We wondered if the eagle learned this technique from the Lake Buel great blue herons.

Carol Ingher saw a male cardinal in a sleet storm, and Kyle Pierce had a junco flying at her windows after dark. Kyle has seen handsome ducks on the Konkapot behind the General Store and wondered if they could be eiders. Pat Edelstein called with the same thought about some ducks she has been watching on Lake Garfield. In both cases the ducks are high contrast: dark heads and white bodies. I called Sue Protheroe to talk about ducks, as she had reported ring-necked ducks on Lake Buel, the first she has ever seen here.

The current thought, from Sue and me, is that any eider ducks in Monterey are truly remarkable. Other dark-headed white-bodied ducks might possibly be male common mergansers or even the ring-necked ducks, though the ones Sue saw left after a few days. Maybe they could be male mallards. I have only seen eiders on the sea, off the rocky shores of Scotland and Maine. The males have small dark caps and pale bodies. Eiders are very big, two feet long, and show a

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characteristic profile with no forehead to speak of: long sloping face from the top of the head to the end of the bill.

More and more birds: common and hooded mergansers on Lake Buel, also pied-billed grebes and wood ducks. Folks around town are seeing robins, red-winged blackbirds, and yellow-bellied sapsuckers, and Steve Snyder has seen an osprey on Lake Garfield. He reports a big bear by Orchard House at Gould Farm and a pileated woodpecker, also 10 deer in a pasture off route 57.

Kit and Connie on Fairview Road saw an otter beside the stock pond in the pasture by their place. It sat on the bank, then slipped into the water. This was April 11. On April 5, Rochelle Brown watched two otters sunning themselves on the ice on Lake Garfield. She also has seen many ducks.

Elaine Radiss on the Great Barrington side of Blue Hill Road had a visit from a bobcat that caught and consumed a red squirrel as she watched and photographed (see photo).

As if all this were not enough, we also have the salamanders and woodfrogs, mating and migrating and laying eggs in the pools. Will and Glynis Marsh saw woodfrogs on the ice floe in their garden pool April 17. The ice melted and frogs were able to get into the water for love and procreation. Anyone would do the same in a Berkshire spring.

Thanks for all your news and interest in such things.

—Bonner McAllester
528-9385, bmca@berkshire.net

From the Meetinghouse

I can't see sunset from my house in Monterey; we face southeast with hills to the north and west. But the night I started writing this, the only things between me and visual sunset were the Gulf of Mexico and an incredible number of cubic feet of air.

Lots of other differences abound. Foreign-to-Monterey plant life includes palm trees, ginger, and hibiscus. Today's Gulf of Mexico wildlife count included pelicans, dolphins, alligators, armadillos, anhingas, geckos. No owls call at night, and the surf sings its refrain 24/7. But I've also spied an osprey and great blue herons. Wildlife is one of the categories which holds both great difference and easy overlap.

The wind's been slow but fairly constant this week, a good balance for what the locals tell me is unseasonable humidity. Being from "up north" as well as inland, I find every bit of this warmth welcome, along with the salty tang in the moving air. The weather's another difference, and part of why I'm here, of course. Another reason is collecting some of the incredible numbers of millennia-old shark's teeth that the waves scatter on the beach.

Huh? Well, the low and relatively flat landmass we call Florida has repeatedly been sometimes above and other times under water, according to geologists. There's a trench paralleling this part of the Gulf shore filled with fossils: shark's teeth, horses' and camels' teeth; pieces of the shells of pond and sea turtles; bones of indeterminate origin. While the results

Mary Kate Jordan

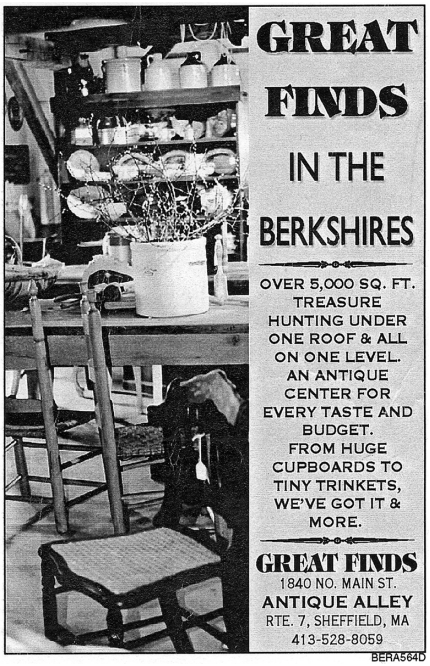
Gulf of Mexico from Manasota Key.

of continental drift and sea-level rise and fall have different results in Florida than for the landmass we call the Berkshires, the land we stand on at home has its own geologic history. Monterey's deep foundations are land that was once, according to the same geologic sources, part of a group of tropical volcanic islands that eventually nestled, crashed, and elbowed their way firmly into the mainland of the continent we call North America. Taking the long view is always interesting, isn't it?

One of the other similarities I'm encountering also requires the long view. Here on the west-facing side of Manasota Key, I can't use my cell phone or get non-satellite Internet access in my apartment. Sound familiar?

At least in Florida I get phone reception on the beach and out in the driveway. And rumors continue to insist that techno-change is under way here, too. I'm ready.

—Mary Kate Jordan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Many thanks to the following folks for their recent contributions in response to our annual appeal. Since I have been editing the *News* for a few years now, your names, and in many cases your faces, have become familiar to me, and I, and all of the *News* staff and Board of Directors, are touched by and very grateful for your continuing support of our community newspaper. —Ed.

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Remembering Martin Bernstein

Martin Bernstein, of Silverbrook Road in Sandisfield, died suddenly on March 21, 2013. The cause was an arrhythmia after a gym workout. He was 68.

Martin grew up in Huntington and Syracuse, New York. He played ice hockey up to the semipro level but stopped playing after one too many concussions, later playing in adult leagues. Martin studied anthropology at Bard College and the University of Buffalo. After graduating, he had a series of jobs including working at Hull House outside Chicago, working at a research lab in Tuxedo Park, NY, making the first working model of a larynx for the medical school at UCLA, and doing architectural restoration at Untermeyer Park in New York State. A marriage in his early 20s to Ellen Boyers ended in divorce.

After settling in New York City, Martin began a career building scenery for movies and television and rose to the position of Construction Coordinator. He worked for over 35 years in the industry, on a range of features from big budget movies to smaller independent films, and was working on the television series *The Good Wife* when he died. In his early days in the business he was elected president of his union, NABET, which later merged with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE). Martin was known for his calmness and ability to absorb stress in his life. His crews appreciated the atmosphere in his shops, and he enjoyed teaching what he knew. He was a lifelong learner and read prodigiously.

Music was a huge part of his life. He played guitar and had a vast memory for music of all genres. He had a lifelong interest in art, design, and architecture, and he made sculptures from wood and metal.

Martin loved the Berkshires and lived in Monterey for a number of years when he first married Deborah Barchat in 1978. Although work took him back to New York City, he kept alive a dream of building a house in the area where they'd lived as newlyweds. About eight years ago he saw some land on Silverbrook Road and fell in love with it. He'd been searching for a long time and felt he'd found it there. He designed his house and built it mostly by himself with help from his sons and daughter. He was very much looking forward to moving to Sandisfield permanently after retiring in a few years.

Martin is survived by his wife, Deborah; his sons, Eli and Jed; his daughter, Lily; his sister, Toby Simon of Rhode Island; and his brother, David Bernstein of California.

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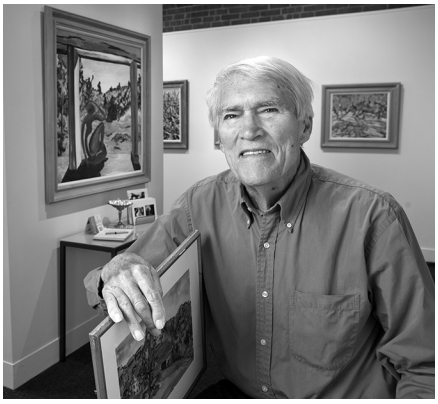

Memorial Service for Lewis Scheffey June 1

The family of Lew Scheffey invites Lew's friends to join them as they gather to celebrate Lew's life and art on Saturday, June 1, 2013, at 1:00 pm. The memorial service will take place at the New Marlborough Meeting House on the Village Green, 158 New Marlboro Branch Road (across from The Old Inn on the Green).

A reception will immediately follow the service, with an exhibition of Lew's paintings, in the Meeting House Gallery (same building, just downstairs from the Meeting House).

Please let the family know if you're planning to be there and if you'd like directions or any further information: rsvp@scheffey.net.

P.O. Box 9, 01245

Thanks to Park Department and Connie Wilson

To the Editor:
I just want to thank the Park Department for their innovative and creative thinking in offering a Wednesday morning Yoga class. And what a Yoga class!

Connie Wilson-Patton's gentle and expert guidance in helping us beginners, some like me elderly, most out of shape, through the process is more than I could hope for. I have had other Yoga classes in a long life, and, believe me, Connie is special. I look forward every week to these Wednesday mornings and very much hope they will continue on way into the future.

During the early very cold months of 2013—well, what a Godsend these classes were. And while I'm at it, thank you, Monterey Library, for providing the space and getting a bit of heat to us on those early mornings. Monterey is such a great place!

—Joyce Scheffey

My Earth Day Roadside Cleanup

To the Editor:
I spent well over 10 hours cleaning up the litter in my Monterey neighborhood and disposing of it properly, unlike the ones that left it so irresponsibly. I picked up all trash on Sandisfield Road and Cronk Road. Being that it is Earth Day today, I thought I would share a couple of photos of all the trash that I accumulated from the roadsides and banks.

My conclusion is this: There are fewer sober drivers than not!

Maybe others can adopt a road or two in their neighborhood as well. Or, possibly we could have a "Monterey Earth Day" cleanup to help inspire others—and who knows, maybe one of those "litterers" will come clean.

—Julie Johnston

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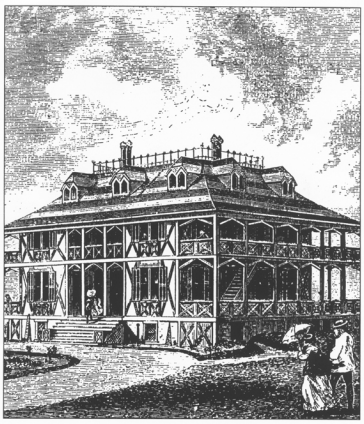

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Calendar

Every Monday except holidays: Select Board meeting, Town Hall, 9 am.

Every Sunday through October: Softball game at Greene Park, 10:30 am.

Saturday, May 4:

Annual town meeting, 9:30 am, Monterey Firehouse. Childcare available.

Dewey Hall Folk Music Series: 8 Foot River, alternative indie rock group in concert, 7:30 pm, Dewey Hall, 91 Main St., Sheffield. $10. Info www.DeweyHall.com.

Tuesday, May 7: Town election; polls open 12 noon–7 pm, Monterey Firehouse. See p. 2.

Thursday, May 9: Free Blood Pressure Clinic with Berkshire Visiting Nurse Assoc., Town Hall, 2–3 pm.

Saturday, May 11:

Opening reception for *Landscapes and More: Patricia Andrus, Judy Hayes, and Gail Heath*, 7–8:30 pm, Knox Gallery, Monterey Library. See p. 8.

Simon Winchester book signing, Berkshire Fish Hatchery Wildlife Center, 9:30 am. Also fishing derby for kids at lower pond. See p. 3.

Wednesday, May 15: Community Potluck Dinner, 6 pm, Monterey Meetinghouse Fellowship Hall. Program by Bidwell House. Everyone welcome. See p. 4.

Monterey News

The Monterey News is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4347 or email montereynews9@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 18: Lenox Contradance, Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker Street, 8–11:30 pm. New dancers at 8 pm. Contact 413-528-4007, www.lenoxcontradance.org.

Sunday, May 19: Nature hike led by Bonner McAllester through Community Center swamp, 10 am–noon. Meet at Community Center (go in new driveway). Info 528-9385. See p. 5.

Monday, May 20: Adult book group will discuss *The Summer of the Bear* by Bella Pollen, 7:30 pm, Monterey Library. Newcomers welcome.

Saturday, May 25: Corey Rosen Schwartz will read from her picture-book *The Three Ninja Pigs*, 10:30 am, Library.

The Observer
March 26 – April 25

High temp. (4/24) ..... 74°
Low temp. (4/2) ..... 21°
Avg. high temp. ..... 50.9°
Avg. low temp. ..... 29.6°
Avg. temp. ..... 40.3°
Total precipitation ..... 2.52 in.
Trace of snow.
Precipitation occurred on 21 days.

Sunday, May 26: Bidwell House Concert and Opening Reception: Singer-songwriter Diane Taraz, "Civil War Sampler," 3 pm, 100 Art School Road, Monterey. See p. 6.

Monday, May 27: Memorial Day. Town Hall, Library closed. Memorial Day observance, Veterans Memorial Park, 11:00 am; Memorial Day parade, center of town, 1 pm, followed by refreshments at Firehouse Pavilion.

Saturday, June 1:

Memorial Service for Lew Scheffey, 1 pm, New Marlborough Meeting House, Reception in Meeting House Gallery follows. See p. 22.

Folksinger Robby Baier, 7:30 pm, Dewey Hall, Sheffield; www.DeweyHall.com.

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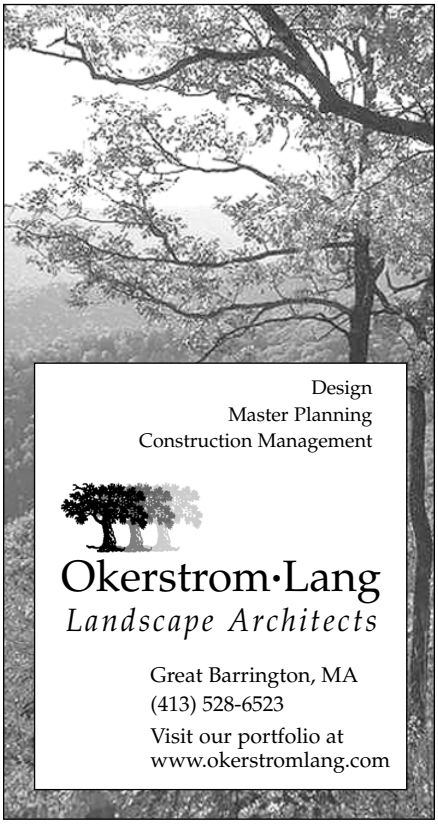

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Pat Arnow, 15; Maureen Banner, 22, George Emmons, 16; Tristian Goik, 13; Bonner McAllester, 14.

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